

MELTON AND BELVOIR

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORT

of the



MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

YEAR ENDING

31st DECEMBER, 1948.

MELTON AND BELVOIR RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1948.

Mr. Chairman, Lady & Gentlemen,

In accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health, I deal briefly in this report with matters within my responsibility regarding public health and preventive medicine:-

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	...	113,025
Registrar General's estimate of population	...	...	...	...	...	18,240
Number of inhabited houses	...	...	...	...	...	5,776
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	£83,087
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	£ 300

VITAL STATISTICS

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Births - Legitimate	158	157	315
Illegitimate	12	13	25
	---	---	---
	170	170	340
	===	===	===

	<u>Rate for</u>	<u>Rate for</u>	<u>Rate for</u>
	<u>District</u>	<u>England &</u>	<u>Leics.</u>
		<u>Wales.</u>	
Birth Rate	18.06	19.2	18.8
Death Rate	9.07	10.7	9.7
Infant Mortality Rate per			
1,000 live births	23	32	32

These statistics are very satisfactory. The causes of death most prevalent are again those associated with advancing years.

The low Infant Mortality Rate is a tribute to the maternity and child welfare work carried out in the district.

CAUSES OF DEATH

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Cerebro spinal fever	1	-
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	1	3
Syphilitic	1	-
Cancer of stomach and duodenum	2	2
Cancer of breast	-	4
Cancer of all other sites	8	3
Carried forward	<u>13</u>	<u>12</u>

Causes of Death (Continued)	Males.	Females.
Brought Forward	13	12
Diabetes	-	1
Intracranial vascular lesions	6	21
Heart disease	25	28
Other diseases of circulatory system	7	5
Bronchitis	3	2
Pneumonia	3	3
Other respiratory diseases	1	2
Ulcer of stomach	1	1
Other digestive diseases	1	-
Nephritis	1	-
Premature Birth	2	2
Congenital malformation - birth injury		
infant diseases	2	3
Road traffic accident	2	1
Other violent causes	2	-
All other causes	14	13
	==	==
	83	94
	==	==

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS
AND OTHER DISEASES

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1948:-

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Total Cases</u> <u>Notified</u>	<u>Cases Admitted</u> <u>to Hospital</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>Deaths</u>
Scarlet Fever	11	7	-
Whooping Cough	92	-	-
Measles	113	-	-
Pneumonia	33	-	6
Dysentery	5	-	-
Poliomyelitis	5	5	-
Typhoid Fever	1	1	-
Diphtheria	1	1	-
Erysipelas	1	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	-
Ophthalmia neonatorum	1	-	-

Apart from what are classed as minor infectious diseases - i.e., measles and whooping cough, there was no epidemic during the year.

Typhoid Fever. This was an elderly woman in Wymondham and although many specimens were examined from contacts it was not possible to ascertain how the infection was caused. Fortunately no secondary cases occurred.

Poliomyelitis (Infantile Paralysis) This disease was much less prevalent throughout the country in 1948 than in the previous year, but in this district we had five cases. These cases were scattered throughout the district and had no definite association with each other.

Diphtheria. This case was a man of 40 not previously immunised. It is very gratifying to note the continued absence of this disease among children, this shows that the Immunisation Scheme which was carried out by the Council for several years has been well worth while.

AGE GROUPS

Disease	Under 1	$\frac{1}{3}$ 3	$\frac{3}{5}$ 5	$\frac{5}{10}$ 10	$\frac{10}{15}$ 15	$\frac{15}{25}$ 25	$\frac{25}{35}$ 35	$\frac{35}{45}$ 45	$\frac{45}{65}$ 65	65 and over
Scarlet Fever	-	-	1	5	4	1	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	9	17	16	43	4	-	2	1	-	-
Measles	2	19	20	58	9	3	2	-	-	-
Pneumonia	2	-	2	2	2	-	2	2	8	13
Dysentery	-	1	-	1	-	1	2	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis	1	-	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Typhoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Euerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Ophthalmia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Neonatorum	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

T U B E R C U L O S I S

AGE GROUPS	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 15	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 25	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
25 - 35	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 45	1	1	2	-	1	2	-	-
Over 45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

S C A B I E S

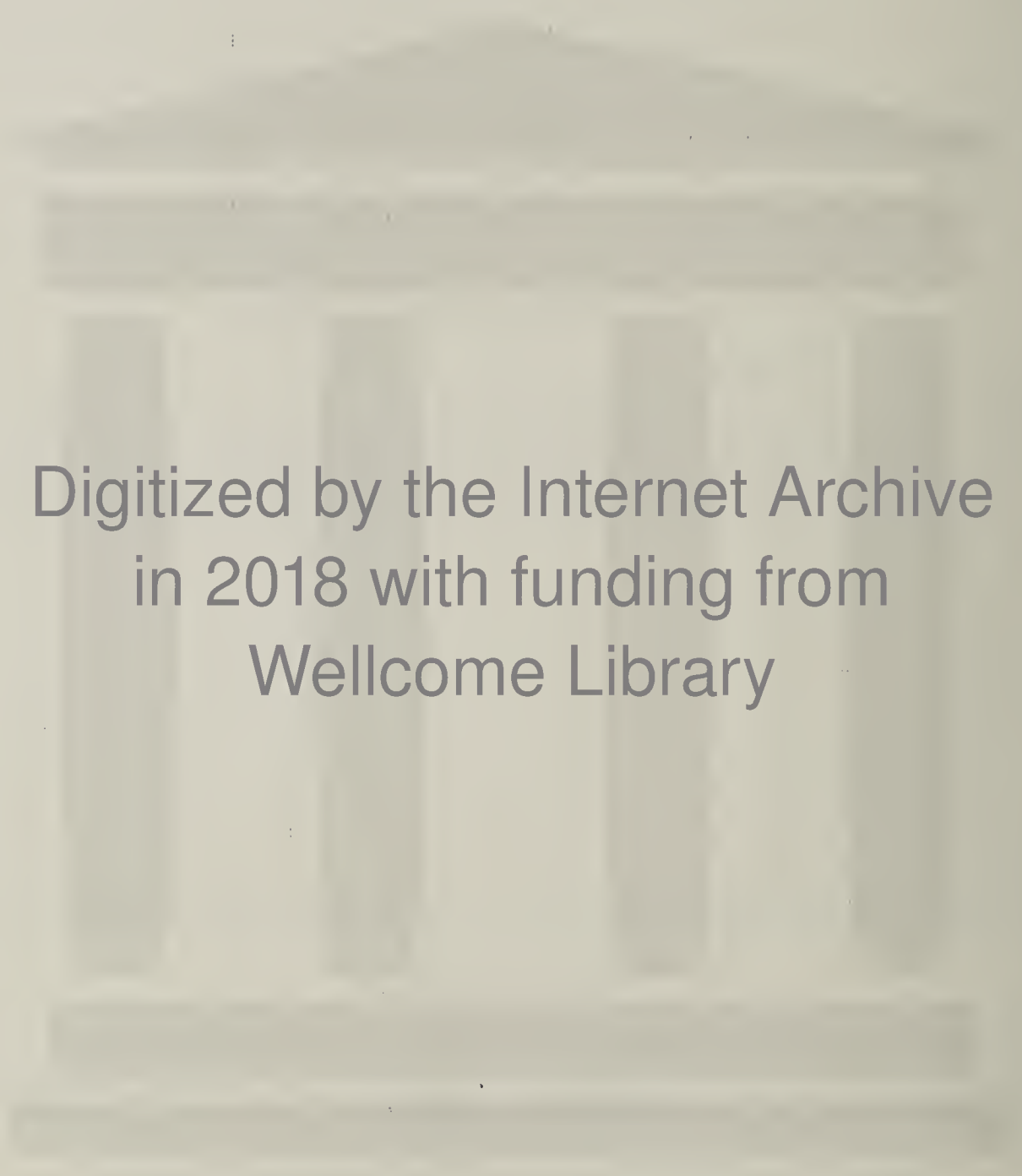
Three cases of scabies were treated at the Centre in Melton Mowbray prior to July 5th, when the Clinic was closed and the Scheme taken over by the Hospital Board.

D I P H T H E R I A I M M U N I S A T I O N

During 1948 134 children under five, and 4 children over five, were given primary injections prior to 5th July, in addition 74 children were given a "Booster" dose. After the 5th July the Scheme was taken over by the County Council.

I am indebted to the County Medical Officer for the following figures showing the number of injections given from 5th July to 31st December, 1948 :-

95 children under five received primary immunisation
4 " over " " " "
32 " received a "Booster" dose.



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GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

1. PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

J. Young, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Camb.)

Medical Officer of Health for the Leicestershire & Rutland Combined Districts in which this District is included.

L. Hesford - Sanitary Inspector

Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute, Sanitary Inspector's Examination Joint Board, Meat Inspector, Smoke Inspector.

V. P. Elliott - Additional Sanitary Inspector

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute, Sanitary Inspector's Examination Joint Board.

A. L. Sleath - Assistant Sanitary Inspector.

2. LABORATORY FACILITIES

The following examinations were carried out during the year by the Public Health Laboratory, Groby Road, Leicester :-

Throat swabs	...	...	...	...	...	17
Sputum	...	...	...	...	...	8
Swab from eyes	...	...	...	...	...	1
Nose swabs	...	...	...	...	...	6
Urine	...	...	...	...	...	4
Faeces	...	...	...	...	...	6
Cerebrospinal fluid	...	...	...	...	...	1
Blood	...	...	...	...	...	3
Cervical swab	...	...	...	...	...	1

The following examinations were also carried out in the County Laboratory, Leicester:-

Milk samples	...	...	...	...	...	487
Water "	...	...	...	...	...	85

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. WATER

Number of samples taken for analysis:-

(a) from wells	...	...	...	30
(b) from piped supply	...	...	...	14

Results of samples taken:-

from wells	- Satisfactory	5
	Unsatisfactory	25
from piped supply	Satisfactory	13
	Unsatisfactory	1

Number of wells:

(a) closed	...	...	...	-
(b) cleaned	...	...	...	4

Number of cases in which piped supply was substituted for well water ... Nil

Number of Parishes and part Parishes without a piped water supply ... 8

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA (Continued).

Number of Parishes and part Parishes with piped water supply:-

(a) from public mains	...	...	...	12
(b) from private reservoirs	...	...	...	4

Sampling of some of the public wells has been carried out.

EXISTING WATER SUPPLIES

The Parishes of Ab Kettleby, Asfordby, Broughton and Dalby, Clawson and Harby, Stathern, Waltham (Thorpe Arnold Ward), Eaton (Eastwell Ward), Sonerby part, Burton and Dalby (Burton Ward), Sproxton (Sproxton and Saltby Wards), Gaddesby, Wymondham and Hoby, are supplied from the Council's mains.

Stand pipes are not provided, the services being laid on to the Consumer's premises.

There is no indication of any tendency to plumbo-solvency.

The Parishes of Belvoir, Buckminster (Buckminster Ward) and some farms and houses in Knossington (Cold Overton Ward) and Grimston (Saxelbye Ward) are supplied by private piped supplies.

The rest of the District is supplied from public and private wells. The majority of the wells are 'shallow wells' of doubtful quality, and in many cases insufficient in quantity during dry periods.

Shortages have been experienced, particularly in Grimston and Saxelbye, and it was necessary to restrict supplies during the summer and autumn months on the Joint Water Supply Scheme.

The Council are at present investigating sources of supply with a view to providing a piped water supply throughout the whole of the district.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Number of cesspools in the District at the end of 1948	...	...	...	...	...	547
Number of cesspools abolished during the year	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Number of cesspools constructed during the year	...	...	...	...	...	4

2.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

Total number in the District at the end of 1948:-

(a) Privies	...	...	...	...	803
(b) Pail Closets	...	...	...	...	3257
(c) Water Closets	...	...	...	...	1513

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Weekly collections of household refuse are carried out by the Council's Scavengers in all villages, the refuse being taken to tips and covered up. Weekly collections of nightsoil are carried out by the Council's Scavengers in all the villages, the nightsoil being taken to arable land and ploughed in.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The particulars given under this Heading are for all purposes including particulars given elsewhere in this Report :-

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA (Continued).

Total number of complaints received	...	281
Total number of defects or nuisances discovered		319

	<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Re-visits.</u>
Animal keeping	2	4
Bakehouses	14	14
Dairies and cowsheds	322	116
Drainage works	220	112
Dwelling houses (all purposes)	1952	170
Food premises	20	8
Rats and mice destruction	2509	608
Refuse collection and disposal	780	216
Shops	12	6
Schools	3	3
Slaughter houses and Meat Inspection		
	34	14
Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.	8	8
Verminous premises and scabies	8	4
Water supplies	210	52
Workshops, etc.	41	18
Other inspections	96	58
	<u>6231</u>	<u>1411</u>

N O T I C E S

<u>Preliminary</u>	<u>Housing</u>	<u>Other</u>
Outstanding on 1st January	17	12
Issued during the year	19	5
Complied with during year	27	11
Statutory action necessary	3	1
Outstanding 31st December	9	5

Statutory

Outstanding 1st January	Nil	Nil
Issued during the year	3	1
Complied with during year	3	1
Outstanding 31st December	Nil	Nil

SHOPS

Action taken during the year under the Provisions of the Shops Act, 1934:-

<u>Outstanding from Previous Year</u>	<u>Defects Found</u>	<u>Defects Remedied</u>	<u>Outstanding 31st Dec.</u>
Sanitary	-	4	4
Conveniences	-	-	-
Temperature	-	-	-
Ventilation	-	-	-

REGULATED BUILDINGS.

Common Lodging Houses - There are no Common Lodging Houses in the area.

Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc. - There are 8 Vans in the District and 16 inspections were made. General conditions are satisfactory.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK SUPPLY

	<u>Cowkeepers</u>	<u>Dairymen or Purveyors of Milk other than Cowkeepers.</u>
Number on the Register	821	240
Number of inspections of premises	322	80
Number of contraventions outstanding from previous year	27	19
Number of contraventions found during the year	15	6
Number of contraventions remedied during the year	35	15
Number of contraventions outstanding 31st December	7	10

Total Contraventions

	<u>Outstanding from previous year</u>	<u>Found during year</u>	<u>Remedied during yr.</u>	<u>Outstand- ing 31st Dec.</u>
Cleansing	6	3	7	2
Structural alterations	32	14	31	15
Utensils	5	4	9	-
Other	3	-	3	-

132 samples of milk were taken for bacteriological examination, 128 being satisfactory and 4 unsatisfactory.

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1936 & 1938.

Two supplementary licences have been issued in respect of pasteurised milk. One Pasteurising Plant has been licensed and one bottling licence for "Tuberculin Tested" Milk was granted.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Private Slaughter Houses:-

Number of knacker yards in the district	...	1
Number of visits to knacker yards	...	4

Meat Shops, Meat Stores, etc.:-

Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	36
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PLACES WHERE FOOD (OTHER THAN MEAT) ARE KEPT OR PREPARED
FOR SALE.

Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	15
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H O U S I N G

INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	...	743
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose						792

(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932	685
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	685
(3)		Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	1
(4)		Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	39
(2)		<u>REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICE.</u>	
		Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	29
(3)		<u>HOUSING ACT, 1936 - PART IV - OVERCROWDING.</u>	
(1)	(a)	Number of dwelling houses overcrowded at the end of the year	155
	(b)	Number of families dwelling therein	231
	(c)	Number of persons dwelling therein	1032
(2)		Number of cases of overcrowding reported during the year	31
(3)		Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	54
(4)		Number of persons concerned in such cases	164

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN YOUNG.

Medical Officer of Health.

10, High Street,
Melton Mowbray.

HEALTH
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C.R. 54